



# MITIGATION IN MOTION

City of Norfolk

April/May 2004



## Spring has Sprung and So Will Five Houses!



**DESPITE** still another change of staff at State VDEM and Federal FEMA offices, the City of Norfolk is moving forward with the Hazard Mitigation Grant and contracts are currently being executed totaling \$514,700. The following four properties are in the final stages of an executed contract: 545 W. Ocean View, 1504 Lea View Avenue, 1500 Lea View Avenue, and 1508 Lea View Avenue.

Elevation of the first house on Lea View is underway. As shown in the pictures below, the utilities and electrical lines to the house are temporarily disconnected and the house is out of the ground. The construction crew is preparing the space below ground level for fill in. Next, work will begin on the new foundation. The height of the house shown in the picture is not the final height. It has been lifted out of the way so the workers have easy access to the basement. When the project is completed, the height of the house will be in proportion to the neighboring homes. In addition, the front stairs and skirting around the base of the home will be restored to fit in with the character of the rest of the homes on the street. This house will be raised 4 feet.



**Lea View is on its Way Up!**

### 4 Houses Not Cost Effective to Raise

**UNFORTUNATELY**, after completion of the second bid process, the City did not receive a bid for the elevation of the 9525 17th Bay property. Brian Walker has been so cooperative and positive, we are truly disappointed that the City will not be to help him. However, there is good news from Brian, in fact, he has sold the house! The buyer will tear it down and build a new, larger home in its place — and yes — the new home will be elevated!



**FEMA** staff have also informed us that four houses cannot continue in the program because the cost of elevation does not meet their *Value to Bid Ratio*. This ratio is a calculation that FEMA uses to determine if the Federal benefit received is in keeping with the Federal dollars spent. So, it is with regret that staff informed these homeowners of FEMA's decision:

- 1217 Little Bay
- 1705 Morris
- 9528 13th Bay Street
- 249 Ethel

### Seven Houses Chose to Leave FEMA I in Hopes of Securing Funds for Elevation in FEMA II

**DUE** to the severity of the tropical storm Isabel, in December of 2003, FEMA made funds available for a second Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. The City submitted an application to FEMA on March 1, 2004 that requested \$1,911,145 to elevate 20 houses. The federal portion totals \$1,433,359. Since the State did not match the federal dollars, the cash match of \$477,786 will have to be provided by the homeowners. In addition to the 20 properties in the application, another 10 houses were submitted on an alternate list. Fema will make the awards in July of 2004.

Due to insufficient funding in round I, six property owners chose to be removed from the original FEMA grant and requested inclusion in this second HMGP. Since the bids on the first 32 houses are expected to exceed the FEMA allocation of \$2.0 million, the City has complied with this request. The properties from FEMA I that are now included in FEMA II include:

- 633 New Hampshire
- 401 Massachusetts Avenue
- 518 West Ocean View Avenue
- 804 Fontaine
- 856 Little Bay
- 725 West Ocean View Avenue

### Next Steps

<b>April—July</b>	Elevate first 5 houses.
<b>May</b>	<b>Submit revised scope of work to FEMA. Bid remaining houses.</b>
<b>May 18</b>	<b>Bids close. Awards made. Contracts started.</b>
<b>June</b>	<b>Contracts completed and Notice to Proceed issued.</b>
<b>July—Nov.</b>	<b>Elevation construction underway.</b>
<b>December 1</b>	<b>Construction over.</b>



### MARY MILLER HAS MOVED

You may still reach her by telephone at 664-4758.

Her office is now located at:

The Design Center  
111 Granby Street  
Norfolk, VA 23510

**THE** Flood Mitigation Grant is made possible through the efforts of your Mayor and City Council:

Paul Fraim, Mayor, Ward 2

Daun Hester, Vice Mayor, Ward 7

Donald Williams, Ward 1

Anthony Burfoot, Ward 3

Paul R. Riddick, Ward 4

W. Randy Wright, Ward 5

Barclay Winn, Ward 6

City Manager, Regina V.K. Williams